

Chair,
Ministerial Expert Committee,
Electoral Reform,
Dear Mr Malcolm McCusker,
Please receive my attached submission.
Yours sincerely,
Robert S Nixon

Submission to
Ministerial Expert Committee on Electoral Reform
on the
Electoral System Governing the Western Australian Legislative Council

Whereas the Government asks the committee to review the electoral system I would like to contribute by putting the case that:

1. The Daylight Saving Party, who won a seat on 98 first preference votes, is not challenged, and that it be assessed as a separate issues as an anomaly that needs to be corrected;
2. The term *electoral equality* is not defined by the committee website - and needs to be defined in the context of the *quality of representation* available to an elector;
3. The Australian Constitution has established a Federation of six states where the provision to establish more states hasn't eventuated, and consequently the Western Australia land area occupies approximately one third of the land surface of Australia, and an elector in Wyndham is over 1000km road miles from the WA Legislative Council;
4. That it is misleading to seek equal voting numbers under the label of *electoral equality* when the *quality of representation* is a more democratic measurement determined by whether an elector can choose to access their elected Member of the Legislative Assembly, by a face-to-face meeting in preference to electronic communication, and have comparable access and influence than say an elector in the North Metropolitan Region;
5. That an Agricultural Region member of the Legislative Council is already disadvantaged when they are required to drive upwards of 70,000kms /year to serve their electorate, compared to say a member in the North Metropolitan Region; and
6. That the committee should diligently assess the *quality of representation* available to electors before making recommendations on the number of electors in Legislative Council Seats.

Robert S Nixon